

**CRITICAL ATTRIBUTES  
(RUBRICS)**

**FOR**

**DIFFERENT GENRE**

**Anita L. Archer, Ph.D.  
(503-295-7749)**

# Six Trait Rubric

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Fix-up</b>					

## IDEAS

0 1 2 3 4

1. Is the writer's message clear?

0 1 2 3 4

2. Did the writer have a enough information?

## ORGANIZATION

0 1 2 3 4

3. Does the paper have a good beginning?

0 1 2 3 4

4. Does the paper have a good ending?

0 1 2 3 4

5. Did the writer present his/her ideas in the best order?

## VOICE

0 1 2 3 4

6. Does the writing sound like the writer?

0 1 2 3 4

7. Did the writing tell what the writer truly thinks and feels?

## WORD CHOICE

0 1 2 3 4

8. Will the reader understand the writer's words?

0 1 2 3 4

9. Did the writer use words that he/she loves?

## SENTENCE FLUENCY

0 1 2 3 4

10. Do the sentences begin in different ways?

0 1 2 3 4

11. Are some sentences long and some short?

0 1 2 3 4

12. Is the paper easy to read aloud?

## WRITING CONVENTIONS

0 1 2 3 4

13. Are the paragraphs indented?

0 1 2 3 4

14. Are capitals used correctly?

0 1 2 3 4

15. Are punctuation marks used correctly?

0 1 2 3 4

16. Are the words spelled correctly?

## Proofreading Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
Fix-up					

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Do the sentences make <b>sense</b> ?               |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Are <b>capitals</b> used correctly?                |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are <b>punctuation marks</b> used correctly?       |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the words <b>spelled</b> correctly?            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Are the paragraphs <b>indented</b> ?               |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Is the <b>handwriting/typing</b> neat and legible? |

## Descriptive Paragraph

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
Fix-up					

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first sentence tell what is being described?                             |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Do the other sentences tell more about what is being described?                   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are descriptive words used?   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the sentences written in a logical order ?                                    |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the paragraph paint a clear and accurate picture of what is being described? |

# Descriptive Essay

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4
Fix-up				

## INTRODUCTION

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the introduction state what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest? |

## BODY

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does each paragraph describe a part of what is being described?                   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Does the first sentence of each paragraph tell what part is being described?      |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Do the other sentences in each paragraph tell more about what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Are descriptive words used?   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Do the paragraphs paint a clear and accurate picture of what is being described?  |

## CONCLUSION

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the author restate what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the author summarize the description?       |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 10. Does the essay have a definite end?             |

## Factual Paragraph

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4	
Fix-up					

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first sentence tell the topic of the paragraph?                                     |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Do the remaining sentences give supporting details about the topic?                          |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Is the information presented in a logical order?   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are linking words (e.g., however, therefore, first) used to connect ideas where appropriate? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Is the paragraph easy to understand?   |

# Factual Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No	Yes
Not Evident	Very Evident
<u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	3   4
Fix-up	

## INTRODUCTION

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the introduction tell what the report is about?      |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the introduction capture the interest of the reader? |

## BODY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the body tell important information about the report topic? |
|-----------|---|

Does each paragraph in the body:

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Focus on one subtopic?                                   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Present important details about the subtopic?            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Use linking words to connect sentences when appropriate? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Are the paragraphs in the body easy to understand?       |

## CONCLUSION

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the conclusion retell the most important information about the report topic? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the report have a definite end?  |

## Persuasive Paragraph

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
Fix-up					

0 1 2 3 4

1. Does the first sentence state the author's opinion?

0 1 2 3 4

2. Do all of the other sentences present reasons, facts, or examples to support the writer's opinion?

0 1 2 3 4

3. Has the author considered arguments on the other side of the issue?

0 1 2 3 4

4. Is the author's opinion clear?

0 1 2 3 4

5. Are the arguments convincing?



# Persuasive Essay

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4
Fix-up				

## INTRODUCTION

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the introduction state the author's opinion?                           |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the introduction state the author's major reasons for his/her opinion? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest?                        |

## BODY

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4       | 4. Does each paragraph present a reason to support the author's opinion?                          |
| 0 1 2 3 4       | 5. Do the remaining sentences in each paragraph present facts and examples to support the reason? |
| 0 1 2 3 4<br>of | 6. Has the author considered arguments on the other side of the issue?                            |
| 0 1 2 3 4       | 7. Are the reasons convincing?  |

## CONCLUSION

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the author restate his/her opinion?                   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the author summarize his/her reasons for the opinion? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 10. Does the essay have a definite end?                       |

# Paragraphs that

## Compare (Same) and Contrast (Difference)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No	Yes
Not Evident	Very Evident
<u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	3   4
Fix-up	

### Compare (Same) Paragraph

- 0 1 2 3 4     1. Does the first sentence tell the two things that are being compared?
- 0 1 2 3 4     2. Does the first sentence tell that the paragraph will tell how the things are the same?
- 0 1 2 3 4     3. Do the remaining sentences tell how the two things are the same or similar?
- 0 1 2 3 4     4. Are the similarities clear?
- 0 1 2 3 4     5. Is the paragraph easy to understand?

### Contrast (Differences) Paragraph

- 0 1 2 3 4     6. Does the first sentence tell the two things that are being contrasted?
- 0 1 2 3 4     7. Does the first sentence tell that the paragraph will tell how the things are different?
- 0 1 2 3 4     8. Do the remaining sentences tell how the two are different?
- 0 1 2 3 4     9. Are the differences clear?
- 0 1 2 3 4     10. Is the paragraph easy to understand?

**Essay that**  
**Compares (Similarities) and Contrasts (Differences)**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4
Fix-up				

**Introduction**

- 0 1 2 3 4      1. Does the introduction tell the two things that are being compared and contrasted?
- 0 1 2 3 4      2. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest?

**Body**

- 0 1 2 3 4      3. Does each paragraph address one characteristic that is either similar or different?

**Does each paragraph in the body:**

- 0 1 2 3 4      4. Focus on one characteristic?
- 0 1 2 3 4      5. Clearly identify if the things are similar or different in regard to that characteristic?
- 0 1 2 3 4      6. Are the paragraphs in the body easy to understand?

**Conclusion**

- 0 1 2 3 4      7. Does the author summarize the similarities and differences between the things?
- 0 1 2 3 4      8. Does the essay have a definite end?

## Summary

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4
Fix-up				

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the summary state the main idea of the material? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the summary only contain important details?      |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are ideas combined in one sentence when possible?     |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Is the summary written in the author's own words?     |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Is the summary brief?                                 |

## Paragraph that gives Directions

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No Not Evident	1	2	3	Yes Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4
Fix-up				

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first paragraph introduce or describe what is to be done?                |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the writer tell you the materials that will be needed?                       |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the writer tell how to do it step by step?                                   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the directions written in sequential order (the order you would do the task)? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the writer include all of the steps or directions?                           |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Does the writer use sequencing words such as next, then?                          |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Could the reader follow the directions?   |

# Book Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	
Fix-up					

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the book report tell the title of the book?    |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the book report tell the author of the book?   |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the book report summarize the story?           |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | a. the setting of the story                            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | b. the main character                                  |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | c. the main character's problem or conflict            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | d. what the character did to try to solve the problem  |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | f. what happened in the end                            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | g. how the character felt                              |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Did the writer tell his/her opinion about the book? |

## Short Story

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No	Yes
Not Evident	Very Evident
<u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	3   4
Fix-up	

### Setting

0 1 2 3 4    1. Did the author tell WHERE the story took place?

0 1 2 3 4    2. Did the author tell WHEN the story took place?

### Main Character

0 1 2 3 4    3. Did the author tell you the name of the main character?

0 1 2 3 4    4. Did you learn something about the main character?

### Problem

0 1 2 3 4    5. Did the author tell you the main character's problem?

0 1 2 3 4    6. Does the main character try to solve the problem?

### Plot

0 1 2 3 4    7. Does the story have a BEGINNING?

0 1 2 3 4    8. Does the story have a MIDDLE?

0 1 2 3 4    9. Does the story have an END?

0 1 2 3 4    10. Is the plot INTERESTING?

## Short Story (Advanced)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4
Fix-up				

### SETTING

- 0 1 2 3 4      1. Did the author include details about the setting(s) (time and place)?
- 0 1 2 3 4      2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

### CHARACTERS

- 0 1 2 3 4      3. Did the author include details about the actions, behavior, feelings, and appearance of the main character?
- 0 1 2 3 4      4. Did the author include dialogue in the story?

### CONFLICT/PROBLEM

- 0 1 2 3 4      5. Does the main character (or characters) have a problem or conflict?
- 0 1 2 3 4      6. Does the story tell how the character(s) tried to solve the problem or resolve the conflict?

### PLOT/EVENTS

- 0 1 2 3 4      7. Is there a definite beginning to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4      8. Is there a middle to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4      9. Is there a definite end to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4      10. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?
- 0 1 2 3 4      11. Do the events lead to a resolution to the conflict (problem)?
- 0 1 2 3 4      12. Is the plot interesting?



# Mystery

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4
Fix-up				

## SETTING

0 1 2 3 4

1. Did the author include details about the setting (time and place)?

0 1 2 3 4

2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

## CHARACTERS

0 1 2 3 4

3. Does the mystery have the following characters:  
a. a detective  
b. a victim  
c. a number of suspects

0 1 2 3 4

4. Did the author include details about the actions, behavior, feelings, and/or appearance of the characters?

## MYSTERY

0 1 2 3 4

5. Does the author introduce a mystery?

0 1 2 3 4

6. Does the story tell how the detective(s) tried to solve the mystery?

## PLOT/EVENTS

0 1 2 3 4

7. Is there a definite beginning to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

8. Is there a middle to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

9. Is there a definite end to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

10. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?

0 1 2 3 4

11. Are clues provided for the solving of the mystery?

0 1 2 3 4

12. Do the events lead to a resolution to the mystery?

0 1 2 3 4

13. Is the plot interesting?

## Fable

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

	No		Yes	
	Not Evident		Very Evident	
	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
		<b>4</b>		
	<b>Fix-up</b>			

### SETTING

0 1 2 3 4

1. Did the author include details about the setting (time and place)?

0 1 2 3 4

2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

### CHARACTERS

0 1 2 3 4

3. Does the fable use animals as characters?

0 1 2 3 4

4. Do the animals act and talk like humans?

0 1 2 3 4

5. Are the animals well-suited to their roles in the story?

### CONFLICT/PROBLEM

0 1 2 3 4

6. Does the main character (or characters) have a problem or conflict?

0 1 2 3 4

7. Does the story tell how the character(s) tried to solve the problem or resolve the conflict?

### PLOT/EVENTS

0 1 2 3 4

8. Is there a definite beginning to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

9. Is there a middle to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

10. Is there a definite end to the story?

0 1 2 3 4

11. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?

0 1 2 3 4

12. Do the events lead to a resolution to the conflict (problem)?

### MORAL (LESSON)

0 1 2 3 4

13. Does the fable have an important lesson about life?

0 1 2 3 4

14. Does the lesson fit the story?

0 1 2 3 4

15. Is the moral (lesson) stated at the end of the story?

# AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INCIDENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
Fix-up					

- 0 1 2 3 4      1. Did the author share an incident (story) from his/her personal experience?
- 0 1 2 3 4      2. Did the author elaborate, including a great deal of information about the incident?
- 0 1 2 3 4      3. Did the author convey his/her feelings about the event?

## ORGANIZATION

- 0 1 2 3 4      4. Is the paper **well organized**?
- 0 1 2 3 4      5. Does the paper have an interesting **beginning**?
- 0 1 2 3 4      6. Does the paper have a **middle**?
- 0 1 2 3 4      7. Does the paper have an **end**?
- 0 1 2 3 4      8. Did the author introduce the events in **order**?
- 0 1 2 3 4      9. Is the paper **easy to understand**?

## Biographical Sketch

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	3	4
Fix-up				

### INTRODUCTION

- 0 1 2 3 4      1. Did the author capture your interest at the beginning of the biography?

### BODY

- 0 1 2 3 4      2. Did the author include many details about the person?

- 0 1 2 3 4      3. After reading the biography, would you have some idea about:

- 0 1 2 3 4      a. the appearance of the person?

- 0 1 2 3 4      b. the actions, behaviors, and or the feelings of the person?

- 0 1 2 3 4      c. the personality of the person?

- 0 1 2 3 4      d. why the person is memorable or important?

- 0 1 2 3 4      4. Did the person come alive in the biography?

- 0 1 2 3 4      5. Did the author continually focus the biography on the person?

- 0 1 2 3 4      6. Did the author organize the material in a logical order (by chronology, by setting, by different situations, by different aspects of the subject's personality?

- 0 1 2 3 4      7. Does the material in the biography seem complete?

- 0 1 2 3 4      8. Did the author tell you about the author's feelings toward the person?

### CONCLUSION

- 0 1 2 3 4      9. Does the ending give a sense of completion?

# Thank You Letter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No				Yes
Not Evident				Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4
Fix-up				

## HEADING

0 1 2 3 4      1. Does it include a complete date?

## GREETING

0 1 2 3 4      2. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting?

## BODY

0 1 2 3 4      3. Does the first sentence tell what you are thanking the reader for?

0 1 2 3 4      4. Do the other sentences tell why you are thanking them?

0 1 2 3 4      5. Is the body easy to understand?

## CLOSING

0 1 2 3 4      6. Does the letter have an appropriate closing?

0 1 2 3 4      7. Did the writer sign his/her name?

# Friendly Letter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	<u>          </u>					
	Fix-up					

## HEADING

0 1 2 3 4      1. Does it include a complete date?

## GREETING

0 1 2 3 4      2. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting?

## BODY

0 1 2 3 4      3. Does the author share his/her personal experiences?

0 1 2 3 4      4. Does the author share his/her current interests?

0 1 2 3 4      5. Does the body of the letter have a "friendly" tone?

0 1 2 3 4      6. Is the body of the letter easy to understand?

## CLOSING

0 1 2 3 4      7. Does the letter have an appropriate closing?

0 1 2 3 4      8. Did the author sign his/her name?

# Business Letter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
Fix-up					

## HEADING

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does it include the author's complete address? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does it include a complete date?               |

## INSIDE ADDRESS

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the inside address include the name of the company? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Does it include the complete address of the company?     |

## GREETING

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting? |
|-----------|--|

## BODY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Does the letter say exactly what the author wants? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Does the body include specific information?        |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Is the body easy to understand?                    |

## CLOSING

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the letter have an appropriate closing?                         |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 10. Did the author sign his/her full name?                              |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 11. Did the author print or type his/her full name under the signature? |

# DIAMONTE - POETRY

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No Not Evident	Yes Very Evident
<u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> 3   4	
Fix-up	

- |           |   |   |                 |
|-----------|---|---|-----------------|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Did the author include the correct elements?     |   |                 |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | First line  | - | noun            |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | Second line   | - | two adjectives  |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | Third line  | - | three ing words |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | Fourth line   | - | two adjectives  |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | Fifth line  | - | noun            |
|           |   |   |                 |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Did the author use descriptive words?            |   |                 |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Do all lines refer to the same topic?            |   |                 |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Does the poem have a diamond shape?              |   |                 |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the poem sound interesting when read aloud? |   |                 |